

ability to prevail—to prevail—over Russian forces through the summer and the fall. We must continue to provide all of the artillery, the anti-tank, the anti-air weapons, and air defense systems and other capabilities that Ukraine can use to block Russian authoritarianism and support the Ukrainian people. However, regardless of how much support the United States, NATO, and other allies and partners provide, we must remember that nothing we do—nothing we do—is comparable to the awesome sacrifice for freedom and democracy that Ukrainians are now making every day when they give their lives—they give their lives in this war—and have their own families shattered in the process.

They are upholding—the people of Ukraine, those brave fighters on the battlefield every day, every week, every month now, those Ukrainians are upholding democracy, not just for themselves, not just for our country, but for the entire free world.

There are, of course, other consequences to this war. The war has already driven over 13 million Ukrainians from their homes. These Ukrainians, who are either refugees going to another country or internally displaced within Ukraine but are outside of their homes, that number is equal to the entire population—roughly equivalent, 13 million, to the entire population of my home State of Pennsylvania. Just imagine that, 13 million people being displaced. And, unfortunately, it doesn't seem like that will be the end.

So I want to commend the European Union and Ukrainian neighbors in the region for their warm welcome to such an unprecedented refugee flow from Ukraine. Now, recently, just two weeks ago, traveling through Italy, Georgia, and France, I saw everyday Italians, Georgians, Frenchmen and Frenchwomen opening their hearts and their homes to Ukrainian refugees, not to mention the people of Poland, who have done so much, and so many others.

Just one example, in Italy, faith-based nonprofits like Sant'Egidio that we had time to meet with on our trip have led the way in providing support to those in need.

I also commend the administration's work to support these refugees across Europe and those remaining in Ukraine, much of that work funded by part of the \$13.6 billion that Congress appropriated in March.

#### FOOD SECURITY

Mr. President, let me move to another topic, but it is directly related to what we just talked about: food security. Our work on the overall strategy, as it relates to the people of Ukraine and protecting democracy, is far from complete.

The world has not yet felt the full effect—the full brunt—of the global effects of Mr. Putin's unprovoked, unlawful, and certainly unjustified war. While millions of Ukrainians have already become refugees, or internally

displaced people, there are food shortages in more than one-third of the country. By the end of the year, tens of millions across the globe also will face immediate danger from hunger.

So this is a crisis for the people of Ukraine on a whole host of fronts, obviously, but it is also a food security crisis for the world at the same time.

The reason for that immediate danger that people face right now being unable to find the food that they need to survive is because of this invasion, as well as, obviously, the terrible impact the pandemic has had.

As a breadbasket of the world, before the war, Ukraine fed over 400 million people across the globe, and the greater Black Sea area exported more than 12 percent of the food calories that are traded worldwide. The war has cut off, cut off, these supplies while also raising fuel and transportation costs.

There is less food to go around, and it costs more to get food to those who need it the most.

This comes on top of the COVID-19 pandemic, as I mentioned, which increased hunger and complicated supply chains and climate change effects like severe droughts and floods.

It also costs more to grow food, as Russia previously dominated the world's fertilizer markets. Today, both food and fertilizer prices have skyrocketed to higher than ever before, and the World Food Programme estimates that 878 million people across 92 countries of the world do not have adequate food on their table—878 million people.

Over 276 million people now face acute food insecurity, meaning that they are in immediate danger of not being able to find their next meal. So they are the ones in the most trouble right now all across the world—276 million. It is not all the folks who are hungry and have a food security crisis but those who are in immediate danger.

Due to Putin's horrific war, by the end of 2022, another 47 million people will likely face those same dangers—47 million people. That will mean that around the world, almost as many people as live in the entire United States will face immediate danger from hunger. Most of these people live outside of Ukraine in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, where any further price shock may put entire communities at risk.

I see the distinguished majority leader. Does he want me to suspend?

I yield the floor.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

#### U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I thank the always gracious, always thoughtful, always perspicacious, always persistent—and many other good adjectives—Senator from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Now, Mr. President, there is only one way—only one way—to describe the

Supreme Court's reported decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*: an abomination.

Such a decision, if it comes to pass, would be an utter abomination. Women across America would suffer irreparable harm to their rights, their health, and their dignity. It would go down as one of the worst and most damaging opinions that the Court has handed down in modern history, and the Court would suffer a mortal blow to its reputation that I fear will last forever.

Yesterday, I pledged that Senate Democrats will act on legislation to codify *Roe* into law. It is vital that we act quickly because this is no longer an abstract exercise. This is as real as it gets, America—as real as it gets.

Every single American is going to see where every single Senator stands on protecting a woman's right to choose. And rest assured, Americans will be watching.

Now, we must be clear. This week's draft decision didn't come out of nowhere. It didn't materialize in a vacuum. Indeed, the blame for the end of *Roe* lies primarily right across the aisle here with Senate Republicans.

The Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe* would never have been possible without Leader MCCONNELL and Senate Republicans spending years packing our courts with hard-right judges, judges who came from a list under the Trump years that the Federalist Society approved. And the Federalist Society's purpose, when it was put into action, from what I have read, is to repeal *Roe*. And the Republicans on this side of the aisle, right there, were willing—willing—accomplices in that deed.

Let me say it again. The Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe* would have never been possible without Leader MCCONNELL and Senate Republicans spending years packing our courts with hard-right judges.

Now, Republicans are twisting themselves into pretzels, trying to distract from this truth. Yesterday, Leader MCCONNELL said that the real story was somehow the leaks and not the end of *Roe*.

Can you believe that? The leaks are more important than the rights of 100 million American women? Give me a break.

And when Leader MCCONNELL evidently was asked at his press conference yesterday: Are you glad *Roe* would be repealed, he wouldn't even answer that, even though he had worked years to do it, because they know where history is going. They know where the American people are. They know they are on the wrong side of both so they are trying to “low key” it.

Republicans have spent decades trying to achieve the end of *Roe*, and now that they are about to succeed, they are flailing around, talking about a leak instead of owning up to their own actions. We won't let them. We know, all of us, why Republicans are spending